As the nation prepares to officially celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., it is also fitting that we join the President in recognizing one of the great soldiers and leaders of the Civil Rights Movement. In the 1940's, while still in his early twenties, James Farmer was already leading some of the earliest nonviolent demonstrations and sit-ins in the nation, over a decade before nonviolent tactics became a vehicle for the modern Civil Rights Movement in the South.

Early in his academic career, James Farmer became interested in the Ghandian principles of civil disobedience, direct action, and nonviolence. In 1942, at the age of 22, he enlisted an interracial group, mostly students, and founded the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), with the goal of using nonviolent protest to fight segregation in America. During these early years, James Farmer and other CORE members staged our nation's first nonviolent sit-in, which successfully desegregated the Jack Spratt Coffee Shop in Chicago.

Five years later, in what he called the ''Journey of Reconciliation,'' James Farmer led other CORE members to challenge segregated seating on interstate buses.

In 1961, James Farmer orchestrated and led the famous Freedom Rides through the South, which are renown for forcing Americans to confront segregation in bus terminals and on interstate buses. In the spring of that year, James Farmer trained a small group of freedom riders, teaching them to deal with the hostility they were likely to encounter using nonviolent resistance. This training would serve them well.

During the journeys, freedom riders were beaten. Buses were burned. When riders and their supporters—including James Farmer and the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.—were trapped during a rally in Montgomery's First Baptist Church, Attorney General Robert Kennedy ordered U.S. marshals to come to their aid and protect them from the angry mob that had gathered outside.

In reflecting on the ride from Montgomery, Alabama to Jackson, Mississippi, James Farmer said, ''I don't think any of us thought we were going to get to Jackson. . . . I was scared and I am sure the kids were scared.'' He later wrote in his autobiography, ''If any man says that he had no fear in the action of the sixties, he is a liar. Or without imagination.''

James Farmer made it to Jackson and spent forty days in jail after he tried to enter a white restroom at the bus station. On November 1, 1961, six months after the freedom rides began, the Interstate Commerce Commission ordered all interstate buses and terminal facilities to be integrated.

Six years ago, James Farmer told a reporter that while the fight against racism in the 1960's ''required tough skulls and guts . . . now it requires intellect, training and education.''

Not surprisingly, James Farmer continues to do his part. Just as he taught his freedom riders how to battle segregation over three decades ago, he has taught civil rights history at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Virginia, for the past twelve years. He teaches his students how to remember and how to learn from history.

James Farmer has, in truth, spent a lifetime teaching America the value of equality and opportunity. He has taught America that its most volatile social problems could be solved nonviolently. He has reminded us of the countless acts of courage and conviction needed to bring about great change. He has shown us the idealism needed to act and the pragmatism needed to succeed. His respect for humanity and his belief in justice will forever inspire those of us privileged to call him mentor and friend.

As we celebrate the Martin Luther King Holiday on Monday, and as we honor James Farmer with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, let us vow to continue to learn. If we truly believe in the idea of the beloved community and an interracial democracy, we cannot give up. As a nation and a people, we must join together and strive towards laying down the burden of race. And we must follow in the footsteps of a courageous leader, to whom, with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, we can finally say: thank you, James Farmer.●

TRIBUTE TO THE REVEREND DR. SAMUEL B. McKINNEY

● Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, Seattle's African American community loses a visionary and much respected leader when the Rev. Dr. Samuel B. McKinney steps down after four decades of service at the Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Seattle. Dr. McKinney is well known throughout the region as a tireless advocate for social justice, supporter of youth and proponent of economic development.

Samuel Berry McKinney was born in Michigan, and raised in Ohio. He entered Morehouse College in Atlanta, where he became friends with a fellow minister's son, Martin Luther King, Jr. His college career was interrupted by a tour of service in the U.S. Army, but he returned to Morehouse to earn his degree in 1949. He then continued his education at Colgate Rochester Divinity School, graduating in 1952.

Dr. McKinney began his ministry at Mt. Zion on the first Sunday of February 1958. His ministry would become the longest in the church's 107-year history as well as one of the most accomplished.

He quickly established himself as an energetic and ambitious young pastor. In 1961, Dr. McKinney invited his college friend, Dr. King, to participate in a lecture series presented by the Brotherhood of Mount Zion Baptist Church, a program started by Dr. McKinney. It would be Dr. King's only visit to Seattle and had a lasting impact on Seattle's African American community.

Mt. Zion has flourished under Dr. McKinney's leadership. The membership has more than tripled in size. An educational wing was constructed in 1963 and a new sanctuary in 1975. The church was a forerunner in accredited, church-site, preschool and kindergarten education. The Feeding Ministry provides meals to hundreds of homeless persons, seniors and shut-ins each week. Mt. Zion's six choirs provide music for the church and community at large.

Mt. Zion's work on behalf of children has been especially noteworthy and reflects Dr. McKinney's belief in educational achievement. The Educational Excellence Program presents annual awards to students from kindergarten to grade 12. The Scholarship Ministry annually provides an average of over $25,000 for undergraduate and graduate school education. The Youth Credit Union brings to participants training and experience in responsible financial management.

Dr. McKinney is well known in local and national church circles. He has served as a leader of the American Baptist Convention USA. He was the first African American president of the Church Council of Greater Seattle from 1965 to 1967. He has served as Advisor on Racism to the World Council of Churches, and as a representative to WCC's Seventh Assembly.

Dr. McKinney's leadership has extended beyond the religious community to the community at large. He has been active on the community, regional and state level. He was an original member of the Seattle Human Rights Commission and served for 12 years on the Washington State Commission for Vocational Education. He was founder of the Seattle Opportunities Industrialization Center and served as President of the Board of Directors for 20 years. He was a charter member of Seattle's first African American bank and served on the Advisory Board of Directors for the 1990 Goodwill Games. He has served as Chair of the Washington State Rainbow Coalition.

For his many works of community service, Dr. McKinney was awarded the YMCA's prestigious A.K. Guy Award. He was also honored by his alma mater with the hanging of his portrait in the Chapel of Morehouse.

Even with retirement growing near, Dr. McKinney remains involved in a variety of community activities. They include membership on the boards of the Fred Hutchinson Research Center, Washington Mutual Savings Bank, the Seattle Foundation and the Washington Gives Foundation. He is also a member of the Housing Commission of the National Baptist Convention, USA.

At Dr. McKinney's side throughout his years of service has been his wife, Louise Jones McKinney. Mrs. McKinney, retired from the Seattle Public Schools where she was Director of Academic Achievement, shares her husband's deep commitment to community service and to encouraging academic progress. The McKinneys have passed their values and work ethic to their accomplished daughters. Lora-Ellen McKinney earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology and has received awards for her innovative work with children. Rhoda Eileen McKinney Jones has a graduate degree from Columbia University School of Journalism and writes for many national church publications.

I know that Dr. McKinney will continue to make his mark on the community. I wish him the best of success in his future endeavors.●

GREG BAYANI'S FIGHT FOR EQUITY

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of Greg Bayani, a World War II veteran and tireless advocate for Filipino-Americans. Until

his death last Thursday, Mr. Bayani spent 52 years working for the day when Filipino veterans would receive the benefits they deserve for serving in the United States Army Forces in the Far East during World War II.

I join the Filipino community in mourning the death of Mr. Bayani and my heart goes out to his wife, Salvacion and their seven children. In addition to serving in World War II, Mr. Bayani took great pride in serving his community as a schoolteacher and principal in his native Philippines. In 1993, Mr. Bayani retired to southern California where many Filipino veterans currently reside.

Last July, Mr. Bayani sat directly behind me during a Senate hearing on the Filipino Veterans Equity Act. Having served under General Douglas MacArthur, Mr. Bayani proudly wore his full uniform that day to show his support for this legislation.

Mr. President, Greg Bayani was one of hundreds of thousands of Filipino soldiers who dutifully served the United States during World War II. These troops fought side by side with Americans during our campaign in the Pacific, bravely defending our democratic ideals. They fought along side American soldiers during the infamous Bataan death march, a journey that claimed tens of thousands of casualties.

The Philippines were a U.S. possession when President Roosevelt called up Filipino Commonwealth Army forces in July of 1941. Under this order, Filipino forces were eligible for full U.S. veterans benefits.

After the war, however, Congress overturned President Roosevelt's order by passing the Rescissions Act, which stripped away many of the benefits and recognition that these soldiers earned and deserve. The limitation of benefits was later extended to New Philippine Scouts, units enlisted mainly as an occupation force following the war. We must correct this inequity by restoring the full benefits that these veterans were promised.

Mr. President, time is running out to correct this clear injustice. It is tragic that the Filipino Veterans Equity Act could not be passed in time for Mr. Bayani and thousands of others who served the United States in World War II.

This injustice has lasted 53 years. I hope Congress will correct it soon by restoring the benefits promised to Filipino World War II veterans.●

TRIBUTE TO JUANITA YATES

● Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, it was my pleasure recently to attend worship services at the Riverside Baptist Church here in Washington, D.C. It was a blessing to me that I attended services on the Sunday in which the sermon and lay message related to the church's observance of Black History Month.

I was particularly impressed by the lay message of Ms. Juanita Yates, a Riverside parishioner who is the sister of the Reverend Ronald Yates of Marietta, Georgia. Ms. Yates is a distinguished civil servant with the Food and Drug Administration.

This sermon reminded us all of the African American men and women who have had such a profound impact on American culture. Black History Month is a celebration of their contributions and accomplishments that have informed us, educated us, inspired us, challenged us and have made us all proud.

As we honor the contributions of African Americans during Black History Month, we should all celebrate America's rich diversity and many accomplishments.

I believe Ms. Yates has a message that is important for all Americans, and I ask that her remarks from that Sunday morning be printed in the RECORD.

The remarks follow:

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

(By Juanita Yates)

As we begin our celebration of Black History Month, it's wonderful to have our young people actively participate in this morning's service. We certainly pay tribute to our leaders of the past:

Thurgood Marshall, who argued the Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas case before the Supreme Court. The Court proclaimed that segregation in public schools was unconstitutional; Rosa Parks, whose defiance led to the year-long Montgomery Bus Boycott; Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who became the leader of the Civil Rights Movement and whose birthday we celebrated last month with a national holiday; and the countless others whose actions have led to a better life for African Americans.

But we must also recognize the contributions of young people. More than any other social movement in American history, the Civil Rights Crusade of the 1960's was driven by young people who marched, demonstrated, and walked through white mobs to attend newly desegregated schools. Young people sat-in, road buses, were jailed and were even killed.

A few weeks ago, the story of Ruby Bridges was shown on television. She was the 6-year-old who walked pass a white mob for a year to successfully integrate the New Orleans public schools.

A few months ago, Spike Lee released a documentary of the ''4 Little Girls,'' who were killed in the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, AL. That documentary first aired in theaters around the country. It will be shown on HBO this month.

I believe that it was the television sights and sounds of America's children being beaten with batons, hosed down, attacked by dogs, jailed and killed that ultimately caught the attention and sparked the outrage of the American people. So, it is altogether fitting and proper that our young people are taking part in this celebration.

During the month we will hear great music—beautiful spirituals and gospels—music unique to the African American experience. And I'm looking forward to enjoying it.

We can also expect to see film clips, documentaries, and photography that chronicle the plight of African Americans in this country. The Smithsonian's National Museum of American History currently has a very moving exhibit entitled, ''We Shall Overcome: Photographs From the American Civil Rights Era.'' It runs through February 8 and is well worth seeing.

The music, film clips and photographs are all wonderful treasures. But it is through the literature—the prose and verse—that I believe we are most able to see the pain and suffering, problems, fears, struggles, faith, hopes and dreams of our ancestors.

The writers of yesterday poured out their innermost thoughts and left us an extraordinary body of work. The writers of today articulate our frustrations and pride as a people. Of the wonderful writers of by-gone years, Langston Hughes was unique. He wrote 9 full-length plays, 10 books of poetry, 9 books of fiction, 9 juvenile books, and 2 autobiographies.

My favorite Hughes poem, ''I Too, Sing America,'' shows determination not to stay in the corner that an individual or country want to put you in. But you must prepare yourself to move forward.

I, TOO, SING AMERICA

I was the darker brother,
They send me to eat in the kitchen when company comes.
But I laugh and eat well and grow strong.
Tomorrow I will eat at the table when company comes.
Nobody will dare say to me, eat in the kitchen then.
For they will see how beautiful I am and be ashamed.
I, too, am America.

All America is enriched by the tremendous body of work from African American writers like: W.E.B. Dubois: ''The Souls of Black Folks''; Lorraine Hansberry: ''A Raisen In the Sun''; James Baldwin: ''The Fire Next Time,'' and ''Notes From A Native Son''; Shirley Chrisholm: ''Unbought and Unbossed''; Price Cobbs: ''Black Rage''; Angela Davis: ''Autobiography''; Samuel Yette: ''The Choice: The Issue of Black Survival In America''; Alex Haley: ''Roots'' and ''The Autobiography of Malcolm X''; Toni Morrison: ''Beloved''; Maya Angelou: ''I know Why the Caged Bird Sings''; Bell Hooks: ''Killing Rage: Ending Racism In America.''

And one of the most eloquent writers of them all, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In his ''Letter From the Birmingham Jail,'' King wrote: ''For years now, I have heard the word, Wait. It rings in the ear of every Negro with piercing familiarity. This wait has almost always meant, Never. We must come to see with one of our distinguished jurist that, ''Justice too long delayed is justice denied.''

African Americans have taken part in building this country and have often gone unnoticed. But yet, we have come a long way in making unforgettable marks in history.

We pay tribute this month to our brothers and sisters who have had such a profound impact on American culture. We thank God for them and for their body of work which informs us, educates us, inspires us, challenges us and makes us proud. Their writings should awaken in all of us the very best qualities of the American spirit.

In his State of the Union address last week, President Clinton discussed his National Initiative on Race designed to help us recognize our common humanity and interests. As we come together during February to recognize and honor the contributions of African Americans, we should all celebrate America's rich diversity.

''We are many, we must be one.''●

HONORING THE MEMORY OF HARRY CARAY

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, I send a resolution to the desk